

ABSTRACT

A method for the identification of the presence of *E. coli*, and *Enterococcus faecalis* and/or *Enterococcus faecium* in liquid or liquified samples. The method employs novel oligonucleotide primers based on sequences of the *E. coli* LamB gene and the *Enterococcus faecalis/faecium* transposase gene Tn1546. The method involves enrichment of the liquid or liquified sample, preferably using a selective medium, obtaining DNA from bacteria in the sample, and PCR amplification of the DNA using the novel oligonucleotide primers. Kits with the primers are also contemplated.

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